

**PATENT** 

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED

. Applicants

Joo Hwa Tay et al.

Application No.

10/081,700

Filed

February 22, 2002

For

AEROBIC BIOMASS GRANULES FOR WASTE WATER

TREATMENT

Art Unit

: 1724

Docket No.

: 690105.401

Date

: April 23, 2002

Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

## Commissioner for Patents:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97 through 1.98, applicants wish to make known to the Patent and Trademark Office the references set forth on the attached Form PTO-1449 (copies of the cited references are enclosed). As to any reference supplied, applicants do not admit that it is "prior art" under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 or 103, and specifically reserve the right to traverse or antedate any such reference, as by a showing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or other method. Although the aforesaid references are made known to the Patent and Trademark Office in compliance with applicants' duty to disclose all information they are aware of which is believed relevant to the examination of the above-identified application, applicants believe that their invention is patentable.

Please acknowledge receipt of this Information Disclosure Statement and kindly make the cited references of record in the above-identified application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures:

Postcard Form PTO-1449 Cited References (11)

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Sheet 1 of 1 FORM PTO-1449 ATTY, DOCKET NO. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE APPLICATION NO. (REV.7-80) PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE 690105.401 10/081,700 APPLICANTS ATION DESCLOSURE STATEMENT Joo Hwa Tay et al. FILING DATE GROUP ART UNIT February 22, 2002 Not yet assigned U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS \*EXAMINER DOCUMENT NUMBER DATE CLASS SUBCLASS NAME INITIAL 6,048,459 04/11/00 Khudenko 210 617 5,895,576 04/20/99 Yamasaki et al. AB 210 614 5,417,861 05/23/95 Burnham 210 609 AC 5,275,733 01/04/94 Burnham AD 210 609 5,228,997 ΑE 07/20/93 Martin et al. 210 610 Smith et al. 5,151,197 09/29/92 ΑF 210 758 4,566,971 01/28/86 AG Reimann et al. 210 616 AΗ ΑI ΑJ FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS TRANSLATION DOCUMENT NUMBER DATE COUNTRY YES NO WO 96/10542 04/11/96 ΑK WIPO AL AM AN ΑO ΑP OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) Tay et al., "The effects of shear force on the formation, structure and metabolism of aerobic AQ granules," Applied Microbiol. Biotechnol. 57(1-2):227-233, October 2001.

EXAMINER DATE CONSIDERED

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Tay et al., "The role of cellular polysaccharides in the formation and stability of aerobic

Tay et al., "Microscopic observation of aerobic granulation in sequential aerobic sludge

granules," Letters in Applied Microbiology 33(3):222-226, September 2001.

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<sup>\*</sup> EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not criteria is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant(s).